

Patent
Attorney Docket No.: AUS920030753US1
(IBM-0034)

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for roaming, comprising:
 - receiving a request for roaming service from a wireless telephone within a roaming network,
 - wherein the request comprises an ~~identity~~identity of the wireless telephone and wherein the identity comprises a mobile identification number and an electronic serial number;
 - determining that the identity is not stored as a record within the roaming network;
 - offering a special roaming contract to a user of the wireless telephone;
 - providing the special roaming contract to the user;
 - storing the identity and terms of the special roaming contract within the roaming network;
 - and
 - providing roaming service for the wireless telephone pursuant to the special roaming contract.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - providing an offer for the special roaming contract before the wireless telephone roams within the roaming network;
 - storing the mobile identification number within the roaming network.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 - issuing a contract code to the user, wherein the contract code identifies the special roaming contract; and
 - storing the contract code associated with the mobile identification number within the roaming network.

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4. (original) The method of claim 3, after the step of storing the contract code, the method further comprises:

determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone and the associated contract code;

storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.

5. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the contract code is selected from numbers, letters, words and combinations thereof.

6. (original) The method of claim 2, after the step of storing the mobile identification number, the method further comprises:

determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone; and

storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.

7. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the offer for the special roaming contract is provided over a telephone, over the wireless telephone, over a personal computer, in person, and from combinations thereof.

8. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein the offer for the special roaming contract is provided through an interactive voice response system.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the offer of a special roaming contract is provided through an interactive voice response system.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the special roaming contract comprises contract roaming rates for the wireless telephone.

11. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing default roaming services at a prevailing default roaming service rate.

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12. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

offering a renewal of the special roaming contract, wherein the renewal contract extends a contracted service term for a longer period.

13. (withdrawn) A method for roaming, comprising:

operating a wireless telephone within a first roaming network, wherein the wireless telephone is roaming and wherein the wireless telephone is selectively operating on a first set of unique frequencies;

receiving an offer for a first special roaming contract from the first roaming network, wherein the first roaming network operates on the first set of unique frequencies;

accepting the offer for the first special roaming contract; and

receiving roaming services for the wireless telephone operating on the first set of unique frequencies pursuant to the first special roaming contract.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

operating the wireless telephone within a second roaming network, wherein the wireless telephone is roaming and wherein the wireless telephone is selectively operating on a second set of unique frequencies;

receiving an offer for a second special roaming contract from the second roaming network, wherein the second roaming network operates on the second set of unique frequencies;

accepting the offer for the second special roaming contract; and

receiving roaming services for the wireless telephone operating on the second set of unique frequencies pursuant to the second special roaming contract.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

obtaining the offer for the first special roaming contract from the first roaming network before the wireless telephone roams within the first roaming network;

obtaining the offer for the second special roaming contract from the second roaming network before the wireless telephone roams within the second roaming network.

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16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the offer for the first special roaming contract is provided over a telephone, over the wireless telephone, over a personal computer, in person, and from combinations thereof.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the offer for the second special roaming contract is provided over a telephone, over the wireless telephone, over a personal computer, in person, and from combinations thereof.

18. (currently amended) A computer program product, comprising:

receiving instructions for receiving a request for roaming service from a wireless telephone that is within a roaming network, wherein the request comprises an ~~identify~~identity of the wireless telephone and wherein the identity comprises a mobile identification number and an electronic serial number;

determining instructions for determining that the identity is not stored as a record within the roaming network;

offering instructions for offering a special roaming contract to a user of the wireless telephone;

providing instructions for providing the special roaming contract to the user;

storing instructions for storing the identity and terms of the special roaming contract within the roaming network; and

providing instructions for providing roaming service for the wireless telephone pursuant to the special roaming contract.

19. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, further comprising:

providing instructions for providing an offer for the special roaming contract before the wireless telephone roams within the roaming network;

storing instructions for storing the mobile identification number within the roaming network.

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20. (original) The computer program product of claim 19, further comprising:
issuing instructions for issuing a contract code to the user, wherein the contract code identifies the special roaming contract; and
storing instructions for storing the contract code associated with the mobile identification number within the roaming network.
21. (original) The computer program product of claim 20, after the step of storing instructions for storing a contract code, the computer program product further comprises:
determining instructions for determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone and the associated contract code; and
storing instructions for storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.
22. (original) The computer program product of claim 20, wherein the contract code is selected from numbers, letters, words and combinations thereof.
23. (original) The computer program product of claim 19, after the step of storing instructions for storing the mobile identification number within the roaming network, the computer program product further comprises:
determining instructions for determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone; and
storing instructions for storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.
24. (original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the providing instructions for providing an offer comprise:
providing instructions for providing the offer over a telephone, over the wireless telephone, over a personal computer, in person and from combinations thereof.

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25. (original) The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the providing instructions for providing an offer further comprise instructions for an interactive voice response system.
26. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the offering instructions for offering a special roaming contract further comprise instructions for an interactive voice response system.
27. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the special roaming contract comprises contract roaming rates for the wireless telephone.
28. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, further comprising:
providing instructions for providing default roaming services at a prevailing default roaming service rate.
29. (original) The computer program product of claim 18, further comprising;
offering instructions for offering a renewal of the special roaming contract, wherein the renewal contract extends a contracted service term for a longer period.
30. (currently amended) A system, comprising:
means for receiving a request for roaming service from a wireless telephone that is within a roaming network, wherein the request comprises an identity of the wireless telephone and wherein the identity comprises a mobile identification number and an electronic serial number;
means for determining that the identity is not stored as a record within the roaming network;
means for offering a special roaming contract to a user of the wireless telephone;
means for providing the special roaming contract to the user;
means for storing the identity and terms of the special roaming contract within the roaming network; and
means for providing roaming service for the wireless telephone pursuant to the special roaming contract.

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31. (original) The system of claim 30, further comprising:
means for providing an offer for the special roaming contract to the user before the wireless telephone roams within the roaming network;
means for storing the mobile identification number within the roaming network.
32. (original) The system of claim 31, further comprising:
means for issuing a contract code to the user, wherein the contract code identifies the special roaming contract; and
means for storing the contract code associated with the mobile identification number within the roaming network.
33. (original) The system of claim 32, further comprising:
means for determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone and the associated contract code;
means for storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.
34. (original) The system of claim 32, wherein the contract code is selected from numbers, letters, words and combinations thereof.
35. (original) The system of claim 31, further comprising:
means for determining that the roaming network contains the mobile identification number of the wireless telephone, and
means for storing the electronic serial number of the wireless telephone in the roaming network.
36. (original) The system of claim 31, wherein the means for providing an offer for a contract are selected from means for providing an offer over a telephone, means for providing an offer over the wireless telephone, means for providing an offer over a personal computer, and combinations thereof.

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37. (original) The system of claim 30, wherein the special roaming contract comprises contract roaming rates for the wireless telephone.

38. (original) The system of claim 30, further comprising:
means for providing default roaming services at a prevailing default roaming service rate.

39. (original) The system of claim 30, further comprising;
means for offering a renewal of the special roaming contract, wherein the renewal contract extends a contracted service term for a longer period.